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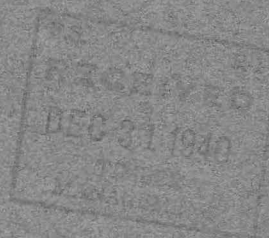
Project

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REVISED PLAN OF OPERATION FOR THE
EXPERIMENTAL BARK BEETLE CONTROL PROJECT
IN THE COEUR D'ALENE NATIONAL FOREST
1941



by

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REVISED PLAN OF OPERATION FOR THE
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The forest insect survey of the Coeur d'Alene National Forest, conducted during August 1940, indicated a potentially serious infestation of the mountain pine beetle within the white pine stands of the Forks-Cabin and Clay Creek units of the Steamboat drainage. This condition had been previously revealed by the 1939 survey, and although control measures were recommended at that time, funds were not available for their institution. This season's data did not indicate any marked changes in the severity of the infestation; however, the condition was again considered as being sufficiently serious to warrant the institution of control.

As funds could not be made available during the fall of 1940, it was necessary to postpone any further consideration of this project until the spring of 1941. In the event that funds are available it is proposed that instead of employing the usual methods of treatment, which consist of decking and burning or of peeling, the project be used as practical test of the effectiveness and practicability of penetrating sprays. As the name infers, this spray penetrates the bark and destroys the insect broods beneath. Its effectiveness in lodgepole pine has been established, but it is not known if the treatment will be equally satisfactory in white pine.

The following plan of operation for this proposed experimental project outlines a treating organization that is based upon the best

information available, and contains a list of the equipment and materials that will be necessary. As the materials to be used as well as the man-day output are estimates only, it is fully realized that they are subject to question and may be somewhat in error. It is also realized that the suggested plan of crew organization may require changes as the work proceeds.

SUPERVISION

The treatment of bark beetle infested trees with a penetrating spray is not a "fool proof" method of control, and will require as much or more consideration as other methods now in use. Constant and adequate supervision must be available to maintain a standard of work which will assure the success of the project. If the work is to be properly performed, the crew leader must be present at the treatment of all trees. It is suggested that this leader mark the stump of each tree as being satisfactorily treated, which will fix the responsibility for an improper treatment and insure proper supervision. Too much emphasis can hardly be placed upon the need for adequate and proper supervision.

SUGGESTED PROJECT ORGANIZATION

CAMPS

The acreage involved in connection with this project will require a one-camp set up. This camp will be located near the mouth of Cabin Creek along the East Fork trail in the S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 22. This location is near the center of the area to be worked, which is desirable. The camp will be under the direct supervision of a "work supervisor", who will be responsible for the character of all work performed.

SPOTTING

Although in using this method in lodgepole pine the spotting and treating are combined in one operation, in the execution of this project it is considered advisable for these two phases of the work to be performed separately. This opinion is based upon the following reasons:

1. The transportation of spray materials in white pine stands is going to be difficult, and pack horses loaded with this material could not follow spotting crew as closely as would be required.
2. As the felling and treatment of an infested white pine tree will require some time and as only a limited number of men can be efficiently employed on each tree, there would be considerable lost time on the part of a combined spotting and treating crew.
3. With the spotting being performed ahead of the treaters, the spotters' maps will be available for an efficient planning of the treating operation.

Spotting of infested trees should be started as early in May as weather and snow conditions will permit. If the spotting could be completed before treating is under way, the spotting personnel could be shifted into the treating organization, which would reduce the number of men required for the completion of this operation.

To cover the acreage that is to be treated within the two units involved in this project, two spotting crews will be required for a maximum period of three weeks. Each spotting crew will be composed of a chief spotter, compassman, and four spotters. There should also be one "spotter checker", who will spend as much time as necessary in checking the work of the two spotting crews. It has been demonstrated that such checking materially increases the efficiency of these organizations. As the entire time of this checker will not be required for

checking purposes, he can serve as an assistant to the work supervisor on other duties when available.

The spotting phase of the project will require:

Personnel

Chief spotters	2
Compassmen	2
Spotters	8
Spotter checker.	1

Equipment

Standard F. S. staff compasses	3
Jacob staffs	2
Tally registers.	4
Tatum holders	3
Spotters axes with belt sheaths	12
Lumbermen's crayon (boxes)	2
Marking tags (white or yellow cloth, 4" x 6")	2,200
Map sheets, Form #878	50
Red pencils	$\frac{1}{2}$ doz.

TREATING

As there have been no previous projects of this character, it has proved to be somewhat difficult to set up what is hoped will be the most efficient treating organization. The most efficient treating organization is considered as being the smallest self-producing unit or organization that can function by itself. Such a unit will reduce the amount of noneffective time spent in walking to and looking for trees marked by the spotters; there will be no lost time on the part of the crew members waiting for trees to be cut and treated, and enough spray can be carried on one pack animal to provide for an average day's treating. A three-man organization, including the laborer assigned to the transportation of spray, is considered as the most efficient set up

for this work. Under some circumstances it may be necessary to add a fourth man to the crews working in heavy infestation.

TRANSPORTATION OF SPRAY IN THE FIELD

Although a number of different containers for the field transportation of the spray have been tried, the most satisfactory results were obtained with 5-gallon "honey cans". These are round, rather heavily constructed cans, with a non-leak, pressure-spring cap. They are carried four to a pack animal in a specially constructed pack box (fig. __), from which they can be readily removed.

SPRAY FORMULA TO BE USED

The formula to be used in connection with this project will be

4 parts Fuel Oil
1 part Orthodichlorobenzene

Some different strength solutions will be tested in an effort to obtain the most economical formula.

TECHNIQUE OF TREATMENT

In addition to the actual technique of applying the spray there are a number of factors to be considered in connection with this method of control.

1. Trees must be felled, limbed, and the infested portion of the bole cut sufficiently to permit rolling. Trees should not be felled along contours, as when lodged against other trees they are difficult to turn.
2. Trees should not be felled and left lying on the ground for any period of time prior to treatment. If the surface of the bark becomes wet from snow or rain, the treatment would be ineffective, as the spray will not penetrate the wet bark.

3. Treating should not be conducted if boles of trees are wet from rain or snow.
4. Trees can not be felled into deep snow, as this dampens the bark and makes the spray ineffective.
5. Trees should be treated the same day as they are felled, and immediately after felling if possible.
6. Trees should be felled north or south when feasible.

As this treatment is only effective where the spray is properly applied, a technique must be employed which will accomplish this objective with a minimum of time and materials, with care being exercised to prevent waste. Thick-barked trees require more spray, and it is often necessary to cover the base of large trees with a second spraying. A second spraying can be applied a minute or two after the first coverage has been made, as the bark absorbs the liquid quite rapidly. Thorough spraying demands that the entire surface of the infested portion of the bole be sprayed until the bark glistens and drops of moisture appear on the bark scales. There is little lateral distribution of the spray beneath the bark, so if an area of a few square inches is missed or improperly sprayed, the insects beneath are not destroyed.

Trees marked for treatment are felled, the infested length of the bole cut off and the limbs removed to facilitate rolling. The treater, using a 30-inch brass rod extension and a fine fan-spray nozzle, walks along the top of the log and sprays the upper arc of its circumference. The width of the strip to be covered, which will vary with the diameter of the log being treated, governs the distance that the nozzle is held from the log. By treating the top of the log only, splashing and wasting of spray is avoided, and the force of gravity apparently

side penetration. As each top arc is sprayed the log is rolled sufficiently to permit the treatment of another strip. Care must be exercised to prevent the leaving of unsprayed areas of bark between the strips or behind knots and limbs. A watchword for treaters would be "thorough treatment with no waste of materials".

Although the proposed organization is considered as being the most efficient set up for this project, every effort will be made to make any necessary changes which will produce the most efficient treating organization. It is realized that the economical success of this method of treatment rests upon the treating crew man-day output.

In treating the following equipment will be required.

Saws, 5½ foot
Single jacks
Felling wedges

Axes, 3½ ft. D.B.
Canthooks, 4½' handles
Spray tanks
Pocket compass for foreman

SERVICE OF SPRAY TRANSPORTATION

The transportation of thousands of gallons of spray into the woods, and to the treating crews as needed, will perhaps prove to be the most difficult task in the use of this method of treatment in white pine. Careful planning will be necessary to make this phase of the project as efficient as possible; however, it should be recognized that its importance warrants adequate transportation facilities.

The spray should be mixed at the time the basic fuel oil is transferred from the tank car to the 50-gallon drums in which the spray is transported to the end of the truck road. Mixing is easily accomplished by placing the required lethal materials in each drum before it is filled with fuel oil. At the end of truck transportation the mixed spray is transferred to the 5-gallon containers and carried by pack animals

only 1 can

to the two camp sites and other designated caches. The spray will be stored at the camp sites and caches in 50-gallon drums. In connection with this service a large percent of the material should be moved into the areas before treating is started. With an adequate reserve of mixed spray in the field the daily pressure of supplying treating crews will be materially reduced.

It is obvious that the treating crews must be kept supplied with spray and it is believed that this can best be accomplished with a one-pack--animal unit assigned to each crew. The 20 gallons of spray carried by this animal will be sufficient to treat 8 or 10 trees, or what is estimated as being the daily output of a 3-man crew. Reserve caches will be maintained along the main trail, and in other areas where considered necessary. Sufficient pack stock must be made available to insure an adequate service of supply to all treating crews.

During the treating period of this project 8 pack animals will be required to transport oil to the treating crews. An additional string of 8 pack animals will be required to move the oil from the end of the truck road to the field caches. Saddle horses will not be necessary with the treating crew unit of one animal.

PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS

Work supervisors	1
Spotter checker	1
Chief spotters	2
Compassman	2
Spotters	8

Treaters (8 crews of 3 men) 24
 (One of these men to act as crew leader
 and assume responsibility for proper
 treatment, direction of crew, etc. One
 man to care for the one-animal pack unit.)
 Pack animals (for treating purposes only) . . 16

SUMMARY OF EQUIPMENT

	Spotting equipment	On hand	To be purchased
3	Standard F. S. compasses (staff)	X	
3	Jacob staffs	X	
4	Tally registers	X	
3	Tatum holders	X	
12	Spotters' axes with belt sheaths	X	
2 boxes	Lumbermen's crayon	X	
2,200	Marking tags (white or yellow cloth 4" x 6")		X
50	Map Sheets, Form #878	X	
	Carbon Paper, red pencils, etc.	X	
Treating equipment			
10	Saws, 5½ foot	X	
10	Single jacks	X	
20	Felling wedges	X	
10	Axes, 3¼, D.B.		X
18	Canthooks, 4½ foot handles	X	
10	Spray tanks		X
	Gaskets, nozzles etc.		X
8	Pocket compasses for crew foreman	X	
Transportation equipment			
60	5-gallon spray containers		X
32	Pack boxes (see figure)		X
15	Funnels (strainer), large		X
Spray Materials			
4,000	gallons fuel oil, 27 + gravity (Baume)		X
1,000	gallons orthodichlorobenzene		X

REVISED ESTIMATE OF COST OF PROPOSED CONUR D'ALENE
EXPERIMENTAL PROJECT, ON BASIS OF PARTIAL CONTROL

Camp Overhead

1 Work supervisor (Camp Mgr.)	\$150.00 (#12)	35 days	\$170.00	
1 Spotter-checker and assistant work supervisor	135.00 (#11)	35 "	157.65	
1 Packer	140.00 ()	35 "	<u>163.33</u>	
			490.98	\$ 490.98

Spotting

2 Chief spotters	135.00 (#11)	20 "	180.00	
2 Compassmen	120.00 (#10)	20 "	166.66	
8 Spotters	120.00 (#10)	20 "	<u>666.64</u>	
			1,013.30	1,013.30

Treating

8 Working strawbosses	\$0.60 per hour (#113)	30 "	1,152.00	
16 Workers	.50 " " (#116)	30 "	1,920.00	
1 Sawfiler	120.00	30 "	<u>120.00</u>	
			3,192.00	3,192.00

Transportation

Camp equipment	\$0.07 per mile 2 loads		25.00	
Spray material	0.07 " " 16 "		187.50	
Truck driver	140.00 (#96)	20 "	<u>116.00</u>	
			328.50	328.50

Rent of Camp Equipment

1 32-man camp				300.00
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Spray Materials

Fuel oil - 4,000 gallons at \$0.10			400.00	
Orthodichlorobenzene, 1,000 gallons			<u>700.00</u>	
			1,100.00	1,100.00

Equipment

9 spray tanks			64.00	
extra parts			20.00	
15 funnels			6.00	
60 5-gallon containers at \$0.50			30.00	
32 pack boxes at \$2.00 (?)			<u>64.00</u>	
			184.00	184.00

Field Transportation of Spray Material

8 pack animals \$1.00 per head 30 days			240.00	
8 pack animals \$1.00 per head 25 days			<u>200.00</u>	
			440.00	440.00

Annual leave and 1 holiday

Shortage on subsistence deductions				400.00
				<u>100.00</u>
				\$7,548.78

TRAINING OF PROJECT PERSONNEL

Spotting Organisation

The chief spotters, compassmen, and spotter-checker should all be available for at least one day's training while the first camp is being set up by the spotters. This training is considered as an essential phase of the project regardless of the previous experience of the men employed. Such training will provide an opportunity to clarify confusing points associated with the task of spotting and serve to standardize the work of all crews as well as impress upon those in charge the importance of the work that is to be performed. This training should consist of general lectures and field demonstration. Demonstration can be accomplished by organizing the crew leaders into a spotting crew.

Treating Organisation

Work supervisors must receive adequate instruction in the technique of applying the spray so that a proper coverage will be obtained with no waste of material. The importance of this training can hardly be overemphasized, as supervision is vital to the success of this project. Following this instruction the working strawbosses should be assembled for a day of actual instructions by the work supervisors and other overhead. Leaders should always be trained ahead of the men they are to supervise.